

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 09/833,815

Q64020

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended): A roller member, which is used in OA apparatuses for imparting a charge, eliminating a charge, or removing toner adhered onto the surface of a transfer belt or a transfer-conveyor belt, wherein the roller member comprises a metallic core roller and ~~an a~~ substantially unshrinkable sleeve which is heat-welded directly onto the surface of the core roller into which the substantially unshrinkable sleeve is pressed, wherein the substantially unshrinkable sleeve is formed from an elastomer material and has a Young's modulus of 120-200 Mpa and a thickness of 30-200 μ m.

2. (currently amended): A roller member according to claim 1, wherein the substantially unshrinkable sleeve is formed from a material selected from the group of polyamides, polyamide elastomers, fluorine-containing polymer compounds, and fluorine-containing elastomers.

3. (currently amended): A roller member according to claim 1, wherein the welding force between the core roller and the substantially unshrinkable sleeve is 0.1 kg/cm or more.

4. (currently amended): A roller member according to claim 1, wherein the substantially unshrinkable sleeve has a surface resistivity of 10^6 to 10^{12} Ω/\square .

5. (currently amended): A roller member according to claim 1, wherein the substantially unshrinkable sleeve has a surface roughness (Rz) of 5 μ m or less.

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6. (canceled).

7. (currently amended): A roller member according to claim 1, wherein the substantially unshrinkable sleeve has an inner diameter smaller than the outer diameter of the core roller.